

7/14/05

LB 343 updates the Nebraska Public Safety Communication System Act. The Department of Administrative Services Division of Communications is responsible for developing interoperability standards and coordinating state and regional communications systems. This includes:

1. Regional communications planning, preparedness and response structures
2. Development of local and state agencies must interoperable communications plans before receiving state and federal funding for communications systems.
3. The Division of Communications will adopt standards for interoperable communications.
4. Creates a Regional Interoperability Advisory Board, supported by the Division.

Excerpts from LB 343 (2005), Sections 86-401 to 86-418

“Regional approaches to communications planning and preparedness and the adoption of regional response structures should be used to develop and sustain interoperable communications. Local and state public safety agencies shall develop a comprehensive interoperable communications plan before receiving any state or federal funding to build, upgrade, enhance, or replace communication systems; and A statewide seamless communication system network of regional communication systems should balance the need for multiple simultaneous users while maintaining autonomy for the internal use of individual agencies. The objectives of such a system network should include maximizing resources and reducing duplication among public safety agencies as well as encouraging cooperation, coordination, consolidation, sharing, and partnerships between public agencies and private entities.”

“The division shall develop and adopt technical and operational standards for any communication system acquired, developed, constructed, or replaced by any state agency or any city, county, village, public power district, fire protection district, or other political subdivision, including joint entities and joint public agencies created pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act or Joint Public Agency Act. The division shall develop incentives to encourage regional cooperation in public safety communication throughout the state. The division shall assist local communities and public safety agencies which desire to connect with a network of regional communication systems.”

“The Regional Interoperability Advisory Board is created. The board shall provide advice to the division regarding the formation, expansion, and enhancement of regional communication systems to achieve interoperability. For administrative and budgetary purposes, the board shall be within the division. The division shall provide office space, equipment, technical assistance, and staff support for the board. The advisory board shall consist of the following members, all of whom shall be individuals with knowledge of the communications needs of their represented constituency: A representative of the division; A representative of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency; and Four representatives of regional communication systems.”